ALREG.





Saturday, December 2, 2017 | Old Leamingtonians Vs Dunlop RFC | 2.15pm KO



www.olrfc.co.uk







WELCOME

Welcome to The Crofts, home of Old Leamingtonians RFC. I would like to extend a warm welcome to the players, management, coaches and supporters of **Dunlop**, our opponents today.

With 1 point difference in the favour of Dunlop in the league and with them also a game in hand we will be looking to secure a home win today following on from a difficult win at Bromyard and a great win over Alcester recently. It looks like it will be a hard fought game I am very

pleased to announce the exciting news that Old Learningtonians have partnered with Entrust Care along with the support of Wasps Rugby Coaches to develop a Mixed ability team. We hope to develop a team of people who all want to come together and play touch/tag Rugby, to lead onto playing in local and regional tournaments with other like- minded teams.

The team is open to everyone aged over 14 years of age, so whether they have played Rugby before or not, are male or female, have a disability or additional need you are all welcome. A great opportunity for siblings, parents etc to come together and play sport.

We are hoping that some of you will want to be part of this exciting new rugby team, whether you are interested in starting coaching, or an experienced coach, the first 12 sessions will be supported by Wasps Community Coaches, and will be helping anyone wishing to help in coaching our new team.

We are holding 3 taster sessions on Thursday 7th, 14th and 21st December 2017 and will then launch the team on Thursday 11th January and then will meet weekly for the rest of the Rugby season. The main session will be 6pm-7pm, we will meet at 5.45pm and the session will end at 7.15pm.

Entrust Care Partnership will have volunteers present to support everyone to access the sessions, if 1-1 support is needed then this can be arranged on an individual basis.

If you would like offer to help in any way or for more details please talk to either myself or Julie Liddington.

Other news:

I would to wish all the teams playing in cup games weekend 15th December the very best.

Please come and support the upcoming young club players. Enjoy today's game as we hope for a continued home performance similar to the entertaining match on Patrons lunch day.

Support the players and please respect the match officials.

Keep warm this winter with a club 'oddballs bobble hat only £15.

Phil Eales Chairman





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MATCH REPORTS

League: Midlands 3 West (South)

Fixture: Bromyard RFC 1st XV v Old Leamingtonians RFC 1st XV

Venue: Bromvard

Result: Bromyard RFC 1st XV 18 - 20 Old Leamingtonians RFC 1st XV



From the kick off OLs dominated the first 15 minutes of the game keeping the home fifteen deep into their own half of the field and the pressure paid off when OLs forced Bromyard back into their goal area for the first try scored by John Carlos. The conversion was missed but from the kick off OLs continued to apply good pressure but it was Bromyard that managed the next score. From a long clearance kick up field OLs mis-fielded and from the resulting period of play Bromyard scored the first of two tries in guick succession. Neither try was converted.

This period of play served to move OLs into a higher gear, and despite Bromyard defending well the

game moved back into home side half the field and when good pressure by the OLs forwards saw Bromvard give away a penalty. The ball was kicked into touch for a five metre line out. The resulting lineout ball was taken cleanly by Joe Tallamini and from the forward drive that followed the home side was forced back into their goal area where Joe Tallamini dropped on the ball to finish off the move. The try was converted by Henry Reynolds.

With the first half drawing to a close an exchange of converted penalties saw the half reached with OLs having the small advantage of a two point lead at 15 points to 13.

The second half saw OLs having to defend for the first 15 minutes with Bromvard having the better of the game but it was OLs that added to the score line when their three-quarters, who hadn't featured to any great degree came more into the game and from well won possession inside the OLs half the ball was moved swiftly out to the three-quarters and following some smart interchanges centre Simon Hemming finished off an exciting move with a decisive cut through the Bromvard defences to touch down under the posts. The conversion was missed leaving OLs with a seven point lead going into the last 10 minutes.

Bromyard came back into the game and OLs were put under increasing pressure and the pressure paid off when home side managed to break down the OLs defence with a try five minutes from time wide out on the left field. Fortunately for OLs the conversion attempt fell short and with OLs still defending up the final whistle the visitors escaped with a narrow two point advantage.



Report provided by Den Fisher **Photos**

1.0Ls defend desperately

2.0Ls pack down in equal forward struggle

MATCH REPORTS

League: Women's Championship Midlands 2

Fixture: Buckingham Swans 1st XV v Old Leamingtonians Ladies 1st XV

Venue: Floyd Field, Buckingham

Result: Buckingham Swans 1st XV 34 - 12 Old Leamingtonians Ladies 1st XV



This weekend saw Old Leamingtonian ladies travel away to play Buckingham Swans who are currently holding position at the top of the Women's Championship Midlands 2 league. After a challenging match with both teams putting in their all, the home side were victorious with a 34-12 score.

Buckingham kicked off and showed their excellent defence work by keeping OLs in their half for the first 10 minutes of the game. Eventually the ball was turned over and with a sharp attack from Buckingham they scored their first try.

Composing themselves OLs came back with a stronger attack against Buckingham. However after a period of back and forth possession between the teams Buckingham took advantage of a gap in OLs defence and managed to score their second try of the match.

A sharper defence from OLs kept Buckingham on their side of the pitch, applying great pressure Buckingham soon made a mistake allowing OLs to turn over the ball and put on an attack. With a penalty awarded to OLs, scrum half Ffion Davie- Cale took a quick tap and exploited a gap in Buckingham's defence to bring in Old Leams first try of the match.

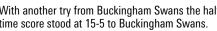
With another try from Buckingham Swans the half time score stood at 15-5 to Buckingham Swans.

A great chase from Old Leams after kicking off to start the second half had Buckingham on their back foot in attack. Another period of an equal battle between the two team proved good rugby to watch however Buckingham were able to bring the first two tries of the second half.

OLs returned the favour with a determined attack after spending a while in the Buckingham's 22 the forwards powered over the try line but Buckingham were able to hold up the ball. This didn't deter OLs while they held their own still in Buckingham half, eventually a pressured Buckingham gave away a penalty to OLs which Captain Jen Vermeulen took advantage of and smashed through Buckingham's defence to score a try under the posts, followed with a successful conversion bringing in valuable points for OLs.

Another try from Buckingham had OLs hitting back with everything they had, spending the last 10 minutes in Buckingham's half, however this just wasn't enough as the final whistle was blown leaving the full time score at 34-12 to Buckingham Swans.

Report provided by Mikala Raines League tables can be found on the OLRFC website. www.olrfc.co.uk











SECTION NEWS



News from the Colts Section:

Since the last matchday programme was published, OLs Colts have continued their excellent form.

11th November saw the Patrons entertained by a hard-fought win over Barkers Butts, who had previously lost only a single match. Will Davies scored an early try, which he converted, and then set up Callum Semple for a second to leave OLs 12 - 0 in front at the break. A vellow card for Ed Grav allows Barkers to score and they manage a second to reduce the gap to two points. OLs regrouped though and stretch the lead with a fine try for Alex Witchell. leaving OLs vixtors by 17 - 10.

The following week saw a large squad travel to Rugby Lions for a friendly, the hosts having withdrawn from the league. The match was notable for the number of OLs sporting black shirts, turning out for Lions. OLs eased to a win by 73 - 10.

Last Saturday, saw OLs host near neighbours Kenilworth...

Despite squandering some early chances OLs were soon on the board with some good possession from the OLs pack which led to an Oliver Sengupta try in the corner, 5-0 to the home side. OLs then doubled their lead with a fine individual try from Alex Witchell who scored under the posts and converted his own try . 12-0 to the home side . Kenilworth were a little shell shocked with the intensity of the OLs forwards and the precision of the backs. Alex Witchell then scored his second following a super box kick from Kai Bailey, 19-0 to the home side. OLs forward pack were now in complete control and further scores from Ed Gray, and a hat trick score from Alex

Witchell saw the home side end the half 31-0 to the good. The only indiscretion was a trip from Jamie Reynolds which saw him binned for his sins .

The second half was a little more scrappy with Kenilworth doing their best to get a foothold in the game and get on the scoreboard. Two more tries were added - man of the match Alex Witchell with his fourth and Kai Bailey with his first - taking the score to 43-0. Kenilworth rallied somewhat and managed to get on the scoresheet with a well taken try to make the score a little more respectable, 43-5 . The final flurry of the game saw Callum Semple see yellow for an attempted punch following a late tackle on him and the game was done, final score 43-5 to the home side.

Today sees the Colts visit table toppers Old Coventrians with both sides having similar records and OCs on top on points difference. The result will go a long way to determine the league title in the New Year.

Rich Pettifer Colts

15 and 17 December - Big weekend of Warwickshire Cup Quarter Final **Rugby for our Junior Teams. Please** come and support!

Friday 15 December - U15s and U16s play Leamington RFC under floodlights. Bar open, food available.

U15s KO 6.30pm

Sponsors: Varney Barfield, Hawkins Hatton Corporate Law, Wildside and BMU Utilities

U16s KO 7.45pm

Sponsors: Jewson, Denso and Impetus Automotive and Charnley's Opticians

Sunday 17 December

U14s v Newbold RFC KO 11am

Sponsors: Equus Miller, Adkins, Moo Design and Farmers Favre

Wishing all teams the very best of luck!

SECTION NEWS



News from the Mini and **Juniors Section:**

This Sunday is very busy at the Crofts with the entire mini's section playing at home to Broadstreet. The Under 13s and Under 14s have Old Laurentians at home and the Under 16s are taking on Kidderminster, good luck to all teams. The Under 15s are training at home. We will give all teams a very warm welcome to the Crofts.

We are very pleased to be invited to the Wasps vs Saracens game for an OLs takeover day on 7th

January 2018, this is an opportunity for our M&J section to go on the pitch flag waving and "flying the flag" for Old Leamingtonians, please come and along and show your support for our club.

I was delighted to read about the success of our Under 11s at the Land Rover cup in the Courier, the team played really well with our defence looking strong, each game was very close, with only one try making a difference. There was some excellent flowing and passing rugby and the players showed amazing resilience in spite of the chilly and wet conditions. Well done to the Under 11s.

Our Under 10s played recently at the Warwick School tournament under floodlights. OLs were pitched up against Leamington, Stratford, Claverdon and Kenilworth. The rugby was competitive, with OLs clearly demonstrating skill, power, intelligence and initiative to score several tries, fueling the cheers from the touch lines. The kids played their socks off and everyone who attended really enjoyed the games. Well done to the Under 10s for a great evening of

Lucas Wager Mini and Junior Chairman

SPONSORSHIP NEWS

Senior Section - Player Sponsors Update:

OLRFC 1st XV Player sponsorship is gathering pace with support from many of clubs supporters. Individual Player Sponsors are as follows:

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Den Fisher

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Steve Davis

Mike Hemmina

Christie McNally

Clive Grundy

Mini Rugby.

Steve Smith

Phil Fales

Ray Griffiths

If you are interested in sponsoring a player please see Reece Jones 1st XV Captain.

We are always looking for new support particularly for the U6s, U7s, U9s, U11s, and U15s. Please contact Jonny Shipton on 07476 405215 or Mike Vallance 07545 602029 if you are interested in supporting.















TODAY'S squads

Today's referee is: Mr Chris Berwick

Club colours: Gold and Royal hoops

OLD LEAMINGTONIANS 1ST XV	DUNLOP 1ST XV
1 Reece Jones	
2 Chris Huckvale	
3 Bill Johnson	
4 Joe Talamini	
5 Hugh Melhuish	
6 Felix Heath	
7 Tom Smith	
8 Sam Brittan	
9 Toby Lord	·
10 Mark Foley	
11 Tom Eales	
12 Simon Hemming	
13 Dave Canning	
14 Liam Wellings	
15 Brad James	

REPLACEMENTS

16 Craig Ellis

17 Andrew O'Toole

18 Rhys Cory

Chairman of Rugby: Craig Ellis First Team Manager: Currently vacant Coaches: Scott Conduit, Adam Canning and Craig Ellis

Replacements

THE 1ST XV WOULD LIKE TO SAY A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR 2017/18 SPONSORS

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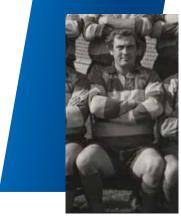
PRESIDENTIAL *ADDRESS*

A warm welcome to old adversaries **Dunlop RFC and their supporters to** The Crofts today for the first of our league encounters this season.

Dunlop celebrated ninety years of rugby at the club in 2015 and having formed in 1925 makes them some five or six years older than us as we were not formed until 1931. They were a particularly prominent club on the Coventry rugby scene through the 50's and 60's and have forged ahead since then playing up in Midlands 2 before suffering relegation last year.

Their 2009/2010 season was a memorable year for them as not only did they win the Midlands 3 West [South] League with a point's difference in excess of 1000 points but they also secured a place in the RFU Senior Vase Final at Twickenham. Having already won a tough semi-final encounter with strongly fancied Leeds outfit West Park RFC they came up against the previous season's finalists Brighton who proved just too strong on the day.

Like most junior clubs their foundations are built on the dedication and hard work of particular individuals and in their case this includes the Challis family. The club's long serving Secretary Kim Challis together with husband Steve and former captain and player Mark and brother Gary have been instrumental in seeing the club move forward and the cornerstone of Dunlop rugby over recent years. Not content with playing the game both Steve and Mark have both made notable refereeing careers with the Warwickshire Society.



Kim herself has also worked tirelessly on the rugby scene beyond the club as Hon. Secretary of both the County Cup Competitions and Disciplinary committees the latter as the Old Leamingtonians know only too well! Indeed in recognition of this outstanding service Kim was elected as the first lady President of Warwickshire RFU and is currently serving the first of her two-year term of office. I am sure all will agree that in the light of such commitment this is richly deserved.

The Old Leamingtonians have a mutual connection with Dunlop as former fly-half and gobby Australian Tony Bristow moved on to not only play for them but also to become their full time groundsman keeping their playing facilities in good condition.

Despite their relegation Dunlop have remained a difficult team to beat and sit just above us in the league table with 25pts from 7 matches compared to our 24pts from 8 matches. An evenly matched contest is therefore eagerly awaited. Whatever the outcome I trust everyone will enjoy their day at The Crofts.

Mike Hemming Old Leamingtonians President



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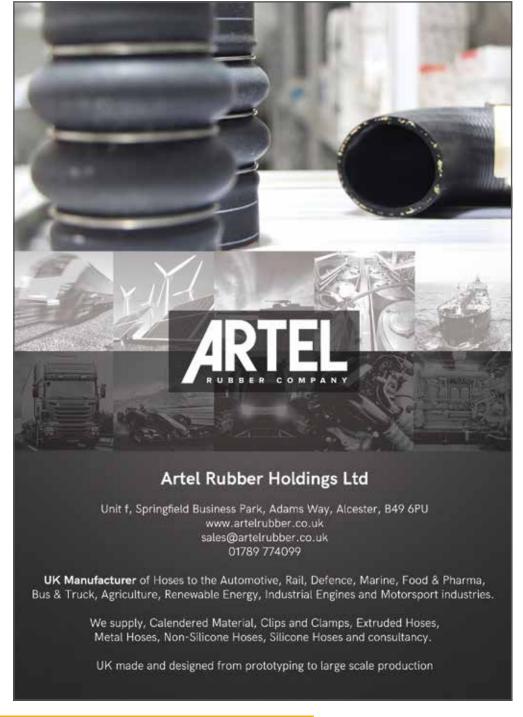
















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